



Astro News

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"Forging the shape of military space for the 21st century"

Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif., April 20, 2001

SPACECOM chief: Space must be top national priority

By Gerry Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — American military involvement in space will become more critical to national security in coming years, said U.S. Space Command's top officer.

"Most anyone involved in military operations, whether military or civilian, would tell you space is becoming increasingly important," said Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart, SPACECOM commander in chief.

U.S. Space Command, headquartered at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., coordinates the use of U.S. military and civilian space assets to support, enhance and control space operations and computer-network defensive and offensive missions. It is one of the

nine unified commands in the Department of Defense that have operational control of U.S. combat forces.

Satellite imagery, missile warning and targeting information that space-based systems provide have proven their military worth to U.S. defense planners throughout the past decade, Eberhart said. That data, for instance, contributed to victory during Operation Desert Storm and the 1999 Kosovo air campaign.

"Look back to how we leveraged our space assets in Desert Storm, compare that to Kosovo — or how we can leverage them even today as we have made advancements since Kosovo — and I think it is obvious how important and how much we rely on capabilities that are resident in our

See SPACECOM, Page 2

Congresswoman Harman visits SMC



Photo by Joe Juarez

Representative Jane Harman, (D) Calif., who represents California's 36th Congressional District which includes Los Angeles AFB, visited Space and Missile Systems Center last week. "You can always count on me to fight for you in terms of jobs, to fight for you in terms of programs and to fight forever to ensure SMC remains where it needs to be — in El Segundo," she said. Accompanying Harman on her visit was Pennsylvania Rep. John Murtha, the ranking democrat on the House Defense Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee. Murtha echoed Harman's support of SMC saying he didn't believe there was "any more important program in the U.S. today."



Courtesy photo

Space Test Program members try out "zero-g" on "Vomit-Comet."

DoD Space Test Program cheats gravity

By Maj. Tony Smith
DoD Space Test Program

For centuries, man has looked to the skies and dreamed of flying. And the advent of powered flight in the 20th century left us looking for more — the ultimate, of course, being unaided flight. Today, unless we strap on wings or go into space, we are still in search for ways to cheat gravity. One method of "flying" is aboard the KC-135 Reduced Gravity aircraft. The Space Test Program office at NASA's Johnson

Space Center in Houston, Texas, recently used the so-called "Vomit-Comet" as a flying testbed to validate mechanical technologies to be employed aboard the space shuttle with a Cell Culture Model experiment developed by the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

The Space Test Program in Houston carries out a unique mission. It is the only Department of Defense organization charged with integrating payloads for manned space flight. This role also attaches

the organization directly to Space and Missile System Center. SMC's Operating Location AW, as it is called, renews its mission activity annually when the DoD Space Experiments Review Board meets. This board determines which scientific experiments seeking space access will have integration and launch costs funded by DoD. Experiments designated for the shuttle or space station go to OL-AW for manifest, integration, operations and data recovery.

See GRAVITY, Page 4

Lyles: Use risk management to remain safe in spring

By Gen. Lester Lyles
AFMC Commander

With winter weather still nipping at our heels, it may be difficult to imagine springtime, but it is on its way. As we now enjoy Daylight Savings Time, all of us, regardless of rank, age or position should begin thinking of ways to ensure we

move safely into this period of increased outdoor activity. It's no surprise that, statistically, spring shows an increase in outdoor recreation mishaps, as well as increased risks from vehicular travel. As commanders and supervisors, I expect you to focus on preventing mishaps in the following high-risk areas: proper conditioning

and training; water sports; motorcycle riding; and alcohol use. Last year the Air Force lost nine members (18 percent of our total off-duty deaths) in water-related mishaps; several of these involved alcohol use. With the increasing warm weather comes the desire to take our motorcycles out of

storage and get on the road, often without taking time to bring our riding skills back up to their pre-Winter levels. Our goal continues to be preserving the lives of our AFMC family by preventing mishaps. We must continue efforts to educate our family members on the need to use available seatbelts, life preserv-

ers, helmets, and other protective equipment. Reducing injuries and saving lives lessens the terrible impact such losses have on family and friends and helps keep us operationally effective. Now is the time to use our Operational Risk Management toolkit to manage the hazards of springtime activities.

SPACECOM, from Page 1

information that moves through space," he said. Sometime in April, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld is expected to provide his formal response to recommendations in a report issued Jan. 11 by the Commission to Assess U.S. National Security Space Management and Organization. Prior to his nomination to be secretary, Rumsfeld chaired the commission, which, among other things, sought to determine if any changes need to be made to improve the United States' national security posture and capabilities in space.

Six months of research and interviews with the country's leading space experts, including Eberhart, convinced the commission that space should become a top national security priority.

"We'd be kidding ourselves if we said we couldn't do it better, (and) our goal ought to be to do it better tomorrow," Eberhart said.

For example, DOD space specialists could make more effective use of available communications bandwidth, and become better at processing and disseminating information "to get inside the enemy's decision-cycle," he said.

"We gather data," Eberhart said. "How can we change that

data to information which can lead to decisions? That is the real key. We're working hard, we have some wonderful people out there, and we have a great partnership with industry, with commercial suppliers."

A Rumsfeld space commission news release called the likelihood of future conflict in space "a virtual certainty." Because of this, the commission noted, the United States should take immediate steps to develop superior space capabilities.

Some critics say the U.S. will not need such enhanced capabilities for 25 years, when a

peer may arise to challenge America militarily in space. Other critics say there should be no military use of space, but Eberhart said he believes this has already occurred.

"We have, in fact, militarized space," he said. "We use space assets, space information for military applications. "We've been doing that for decades. The trend is increasing, not just the United States of America, but also other countries, friends, and possible foes.

"So, I think we've crossed that bridge," he said.

The Action Line is your direct link to Col. Phil Parker, 61st Air Base Group commander. Its purpose is to make Los Angeles AFB a better place to live and work. If you have an issue that needs to be resolved, discuss it first with your supervisor or First Sergeant. Call the Action Line at 363-2255 if you can't find a solution

through your chain of command. Your call will be recorded and, if you leave your name and number, you will get an answer to your question.



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Base IG – Lt. Col. John Woodcock	363-0802
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Civil Engineering – Capt. Bo Bloomer	363-5126
Commissary – Al Cherry	363-6140
Comm. Sqd. – Lt. Col. Lori South	363-0798
Equal Employment Opportunity Program Office – Leonard Gonzales	363-1565

Congratulations

The following civilians have been promoted: **Mary Aliabadi, Jeffrey Cleeland, Theresa Cunningham, Karen Thao Ho, Lina Litonjua, Mike Newman, Lavivian Robinson, Barbara Seymore, Wanda Tillman and Nedra Williams.**

The following individuals have received Notable Achievement Awards: **Maria Apodaca, Leonarda Camegla, Eleanor Convento, Robert Delle, Lorraine Kidani, Harina Lozanogonzalez, Sherl Price, Anthony Riccio, Mariejose**

Roussel, Eugene Russell, Mary Saffold, Sandra Salem and Irma Torres.

The Civilian Advisory Group Quarterly award selectees are: **Gloria Aguilera, Iliana Briseno, Susan Oiumette, Elizabeth Tua'au, Matthew Wilt, Gloria Dees, Ann Frenzel, Christina Koybayashi, Arminda Lewis, Jaime Madrigal, Remona McNelton, Mark Dyer, Janice Jamar, Cheryl Johnson, Carol Laechelt, Dahlia Mauricio, Faye McTyler, Lara Sayer and Renee Stenborg.**

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Astro News

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Call 363-0303 for more information.

Information assurance is your job

SMC commander: Don't slack off now

By Lt. Gen. Eugene Tattini
SMC Commander

We all know that the security of our communications network is paramount to Space and Missile System Center's ability to execute its mission. Information



Assurance gets high visibility in SMC and we've had a very good track record for protecting our networks and responding to simulated and real-world attacks.

Particularly over the past three months, Team SMC has responded well. We've greatly improved our user awareness and knowledge of what to do when an attempt is made to coerce a password or when

attacked by a virus.

— Don't slack off now.
— We still have people giving away their passwords. Don't even give it to me. Do not respond to the requestor. If asked for your password, report the incident to your Computer Systems Security Officer!

— We still have people who don't respond correctly when their system is attacked — Stop what you are doing and contact your CSSO.

I want to ensure that CSSOs remain vigilant and continuously train and reemphasize security again and again. Be visible to your unit.

Our System Administrators and Workgroup Managers are responsible for ensuring network servers and desktop systems are physically configured to keep the intruder out.

This requires a lot of hands-on work and a tremendous focus on attention to detail.

We're relying on you to check and double check your work.

One of our network boxes was compromised April 15 due to lack of attention to detail. Luckily, the problem was detected and corrected before any real damage was done.

Upon further investigation, we found that other servers in the system program offices, SMC staff offices and the network control center had a similar weakness. In the future, when directives require verification of patches, configurations, etc., verification will be made in an irrefutable manner.

Just because standard operating procedure says we configure a system a certain way, is not legitimate verification. Reliable system scans or hands-on checks will be required.

It takes the whole team to keep our network secure. Don't let your guard down.

Leading LA

First Lieutenant Kevin Mattern



... is an intelligence analyst with Space and Missile Systems Center Directorate of Intelligence. He analyzes foreign threats to the MILSATCOM systems and prepares briefings on current intelligence or special interest topics.

The 14-year Air Force veteran is also part of the base exercise evaluation team where he develops scenarios for base exercises and then evaluates his organizations performance.

Mattern has his bachelor's of science degree in computer science from the University of West Florida, but is not ready to stop there.

"My plans include beginning a master's program in the Fall," Mattern said.

When not analyzing intelligence information, he enjoys helping the Air Force tell its story. "One of the most

rewarding projects I've done here has been the Corona display in the foyer of Building 125," said Mattern. "The display recognizes the contributions and achievements of Aerospace's Project West Wing with the nation's first satellite reconnaissance program. It has been an honor to be able to tell a story through the display that had been highly classified for so long."

The lieutenant's off duty time is spent with his 8-year-old daughter Kaitlan. He also enjoys playing sports and working out at the gym.

CORONA exhibit chronicles its history

By 1st Lt. Luis Santiago
SMC Intelligence Directorate

A historical exhibit of the CORONA photo reconnaissance program and the Hardy Technical Intelligence Research Library was opened April 2 in a ceremony officiated by Space and Missile Systems Center commander Lt. Gen. Eugene Tattini. Following his keynote speech, Tattini cut the ribbon to officially open these facilities that represent both past and current achievements of SMC's Intelligence Directorate.

CORONA was the nation's first photo-reconnaissance satellite system, operating from August 1960 until May 1972. This series of reconnaissance satellites provided coverage of the Soviet Union, China, and other areas from the Middle East to Southeast Asia and revolutionized the collection of intelligence from the relative safety of a space-borne platform.

On Oct. 4, 1957, the Soviet Union became the world's first nation to successfully launch a

spacecraft into orbit around the earth. Sputnik I stunned the world. As a result, the United States greatly accelerated its space program efforts. In addition, there existed a growing fear in the U.S. that the Soviets had superior ICBM technology which created a perceived missile gap. The photos produced by CORONA proved that the missile gap didn't exist.

CORONA satellites were launched from Vandenberg AFB, Calif., on THOR boosters. The primary recovery technique used aircraft such as the C-119 and later C-130, for mid-air capture and retrieval of the descending parachute carrying the precious film-laden capsule. The imagery was then rushed to a national processing lab where the film was prepared for distribution to organizations such as Project West Wing for exploitation.

PWW, established in August 1957, was initially chartered to analyze Soviet missile programs. Following Sputnik I, however, the charter was

expanded to include the Soviet space program. PWW received copies of the imagery about two weeks following the film recovery. Priority targets would receive the "first look" for significant activity. The baseline analyst was the photo interpreter who would extract every possible useable piece of information for a given target. Other members of the Project were encouraged to contribute to the total exploitation effort.

Robert "Bob" Eaton, a former Intelligence Analyst was present at the ceremony April 2.

"Tremendous," Eaton said. "This exhibit brings back so many memories."

Eaton's career began in the mid-1950s when he left his job as director of a research lab at the University of Michigan and was invited to head west to California to devote his engineering talents to the emerging U.S. Atlas missile program. In the late-1950s, as a result of his missile program experience, he was given the opportunity to join PWW as a senior intelligence analyst to

specialize in Soviet missile program analysis. The director of the project at that time was Dr. Bud Wheelon. In 1960, the project was transferred from the Space Technology Laboratories to The Aerospace Corporation under a new Director, Dr. Robert Turnacliffe. With the availability of the CORONA imagery, Eaton was responsible for imagery analysis, reporting, and oversight as supervisor of the photo interpreters that worked as part of his team. He was the manager of the Facilities Analysis Department for the project until his retirement in 1983. "With Bob's professional experience and engineering background, he would never claim to have the patience and skills of a photo interpreter, but we regarded him as one the best," said a former photo interpreter who worked for Eaton for 20 years.

Some of the precision instruments on display in the exhibit provided users with the ability to perform detailed imagery analysis which included the capability to accurately measure distances and lengths to the limits of film resolution.

"This instrument provided

us the ability to refine our measuring capability to a millionth of a meter on film," Eaton said, referring to the olive-green colored instrument in the glass case. His knowledge of the various pieces of equipment is sharp and detailed as it should be, considering he redesigned and rebuilt three of these instruments in his own home.

"To the dismay of my wife," Eaton said, "I had to use her kitchen oven to bake and cure the special paint that was used on the bases and control boxes for the microscopes."

Other retired, early project figures present at the ceremony included: Dr. John Travis, former Associate Project Director; "Dave" Pierson, former technical engineering specialist and special projects liaison; and Jack LeRewche, former photo interpretation specialist.

Gary Clark, a 41-year veteran of The Aerospace Corporation and member of PWW, was given the intelligence directorate's first unit coin. "Thank you for all you have done," said Lt. Col. Larry Hollett, SMC intelligence director.

GRAVITY, from Page 1

OL-AW works closely with the principal investigator, the payload sponsor and the National Aeronautics and Space Agency departments as the single-voice to make the integration successful.

This involves “becoming familiar with the actual science, finding a shuttle ride or Space Station access, working inter-agency funding issues, developing integration schedules, conveying NASA safety and other requirements to the PI, training the flight controllers and astronauts, ‘sitting on console,’ stow and destow operations at Cape Canaveral, Fla., AFS, and, finally, returning data to the PI,” said Dave Hess, the director of OL-AW. These activities are also performed for DoD operational payloads and for those payloads which do not require SERB sponsorship, but do seek shuttle access.

The CCM is an experienced payload that has flown in multiple configurations on several shuttle missions to

study tissue atrophy. Its objective is to validate models of muscle, bone, tissue and cell biochemical and functional loss due to microgravity exposure from manned space flight. This search for improved preventive and rehabilitative processes will hopefully lead to strategies to combat induced tissue loss in both zero gravity and gravity environments.

The OL-AW CCM team took to the skies aboard the KC-135 ‘Vomit-Comet’ to test CCM mechanical and procedural operations of the CCM module being developed for the Space Station. Each team member participated in a minimum of 80 weightless flights performing test runs to mimic the station’s microgravity environment. And although the aircraft lived up to its nickname, the experience of floating for 25-30 seconds at a shot was one none would easily forget.

To achieve this condition of free-falling within the aircraft, the high-performance KC-135



Courtesy photo

Maj. Tony Smith is suspended in mid-air as he experiences 25-30 seconds of zero gravity aboard the “Vomit Comet” as the DoD Space Test Program team conducts a “Cell Culture Module” experiment.

performs parabolic maneuvers. It begins by climbing at a 45-degree angle, subjecting the test crew to two g’s for an extended period of time. At altitude, the

nose is pitched over. It is this portion of the parabola where the steady hand of the pilot maximizes the “weightlessness” environment, being careful not

to induce either negative or positive g’s. At this point the aircraft enters its dive phase prolonging the time the payloads experience zero-g.

Test facility hones in on nuclear explosion impacts

By Tina Barton
Arnold AFB Public Affairs

ARNOLD AFB, Tenn. (AFMCNS) – Determining how nuclear explosions in outer space impacts U.S. defense systems is what Arnold Engineering Development Center's new Plasma Radiation Source "cold" X-ray test capability hopes to accomplish.

Completed in 1999 in partnership with the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, the Decade-Quad simulator produces the X-ray portions of a nuclear explosion within a highly shielded test cell. The entire test lasts approximately 40 nanoseconds, or about the time it takes light to travel across a large room.

The simulator consists of a pulse power train with 288 high-energy storage capacitors that store electrical energy for a short time before producing X-rays.

In 2000, the Decade Nuclear Weapons Effect team added four Bremsstrahlung diodes that produce up to 20 krad of "hot" X-rays over a 2,250 square-centimeter area for testing larger systems like communication satellites, ground-based interceptor sensors and missiles.

During a hot X-ray test, operators charge capacitors to voltage levels of up to 100,000 volts of electricity. Then, they

discharge the capacitors through the diodes to produce a ten terawatt-pulse electron beam which impacts on a target sensors on or near the test article measure and document the amount and type of X-rays produced. The entire sequence takes approximately two minutes.

"These X-rays deeply penetrate space systems and damage the internal components such as cables, computer circuits and processor boards," said Dr. Larry Christensen, one of the AEDC plasma physicists supporting the Decade effort.

The latest upgrades produce "cold" X-rays by replacing the four Bremsstrahlung diodes with a water coupler that funnels the electric current from the individual modules into a single load.

"Cold X-rays do not penetrate as effectively as hot X-rays, but 'land' on surfaces of satellite optical components such as telescopes, mirrors and lenses," Christensen said. "By depositing their energy at the surface of the test article, they can damage those components by marring the telescope lens or mirror coatings."

During cold X-ray testing, a conducting medium, such as aluminum wire or argon gas, is loaded into the center of the PRS coupler opening. Then, using the same process as "hot"



Photo by Gary Barton

The Decade-Quad simulator produces the x-ray portions of a nuclear explosion.

X-ray testing, 10 million amps of electricity flows through the medium creating temperatures hot enough to vaporize it and strip "K-shell" and "L-shell" electrons from its molecules. The electrons produce the "cold" X-ray when they give up energy and fall back into their orbit.

"Since a nuclear explosion produces a broad spectrum of X-rays, including both "hot" and "cold," we need to test with both types to accurately simulate the potential effects,"

said Lavell Whitehead, project manager and nuclear weapons effect team coach.

"Because different nuclear bombs emit different X-ray spectrums, our goal is to produce a spectrum that matches the type able to effect the customer's test article," he said.

According to Whitehead, different mediums can be used depending on the X-ray spectrum to be simulated.

"In the Decade quad, different conducting mediums

produce different X-ray spectrums, Whitehead said. "When our customer brings a test article in for testing, we determine which spectrum's could effect the system and then decide which conducting medium will produce that particular spectrum."

The NWE team will conduct the final cold X-ray checkout during April. The first test using the new capability will be the telescope portion of an Exoatmospheric Kill Vehicle.

AFRL awards \$8.4 million contract for computer attack technology

ROME, N.Y. (AFMCNS) — The Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate awarded an \$8.4 million contract to Orincon Corp. of San Diego, Calif., for research to enhance computer system attack detection.

Under terms of the 10-month agreement, "Coordinated Distributed Attack Detection" Orincon researchers

will develop capabilities to monitor network traffic in real-time — alerting analysts about information attacks and providing recommendations for information-based countermeasures.

"The CDAD program will develop technology to be called Distributed Agent Information Watch," said Robert J. Vaeth, program manager in the

directorates information grid division. "DAIWatch will be based on sensor agents that can detect a broad set of events and intelligent agents that can fuse events into activities and reason about activities within real-time context to relate them to attacks."

Software agents have their own internal problem-solving abilities, which allow them to

continuously collect specific information and determine when new information must be obtained to remain current and support decision-makers, Vaeth said. Agent technology has the potential to help users with the informational changes and uncertainty associated with strategy and tactics for defensive information warfare.

"The DAIWatch system is

dynamically scalable and reconfigurable, which allows it to adapt to changing circumstances in the task environment and dynamically add capabilities," Vaeth said.

"Most importantly, the system has been designed and implemented to maximize the rate of true detections while minimizing the rate of false alarms."

Arbor Day Foundation dubs Los Angeles AFB a 'Tree City USA' community

Los Angeles AFB has been named a Tree City USA by The National Arbor Day Foundation. It is the first year Los Angeles AFB has received this national recognition.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by The

National Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

To become a Tree City USA, a community must meet four standards: a tree board or

department, a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance.

"Trees and their many benefits to our communities have never been more important," said John Rosenow,

president of The National Arbor Day Foundation.

"Proper tree planting and care today will help ensure cleaner, healthier, more tree-filled cities and towns tomorrow. Trees are great for the environment."

"Tree City USA is a recog-

nized standard of an effective community forestry program," Rosenow said.

"And the basis of such a program is a commitment to ongoing improvement and renewal of our natural resources."

Health and Wellness Center wins best in command honors

By John Ryan
Public Affairs

The Health and Wellness Center at Los Angeles AFB was recently recognized as Air Force Materiel Command's Best Small Base Health Promotion Program for 2000. This award recognizes the health promotion program whose outstanding actions improves the delivery of health care and contributes to disease and injury prevention. The HAWC was also recognized for giving base personnel, retirees, their families, and Department of Defense civilians a pleasant environment to relax and to learn how to make positive lifestyle changes.

According to the award, the HAWC has strengthened the tobacco cessation program and boast a six-month success rate consistently over 60 percent, as compared to the AFMC goal of 30 percent. They've successfully reduced the time members spend in the monitored fitness improvement program and are working hard to increase the self-paced fitness improvement pass rate to 100 percent, preventing members from ever progressing.

The nutrition programs were also singled out for praise. "Whether you're in the mandatory weight management

program or sign up for it on your own, the Think Light! weight loss program is nothing short of what you'd pay hundreds of dollars for on the economy. Everyone who commits to this program leaves excited and better armed to change their eating and exercise habits for the long haul," said Kimberly Cahill, the HAWC's registered dietician.

The HAWC is available to help active-duty, retirees, family members, DoD civilians and contract personnel. All HAWC programs are open to the entire Los Angeles AFB population.

"The HAWC team consistently demonstrates a remark-

able work ethic and incredible dedication to base personnel," said Col. Mark Wisniewski, commander 61st ABG Medical Squadron. Indeed it is the teamwork that sets the HAWC at Los Angeles AFB above those at other commands.

"The caring and can-do attitude of the staff to help our customers enables this office to excel," said Capt. Deborah Schueren, director of the HAWC. "We're always conjuring up new ways to get the message out there about

making healthy lifestyle choices. We want people to experience the benefits of a better quality of life."

The HAWC is located next to the Class Six store in Building 244. For information on programs, call 363-6266.



Courtesy photo

From left to right: Lt. Gen. Eugene Tattini, Capt. Deborah Scheuren, Kimberly Cahill and Hope Connor pose with the HAWC's award for the best Small Base Health Promotion Program in AFMC.

SMC Today

Got a good story? The staff of the video program, 'SMC Today', would love to hear about it. To submit story ideas for 'SMC Today', call John Brazelton at 363-6897

Time for a spot o' tea



Clockwise from left: Jared Ruffin enjoys himself during Teddy Bear Tea Time at Fort MacArthur April 5. About 50 youngsters participated in the event. Riley Beres, right, and a friend, prepare to enjoy their tea. Left to right: Josh Platter, Sydney Beres and Riley Tidwell enjoy a few books in the comfortable arms of a large teddy bear. For more information on upcoming Teddy Bear Tea Time events, contact Kelly Becker Shelly Beres at 519-7876.



Photos by Joe Juarez



Easter surprise



Photos by Tri Mathis

Left: Noah Sadiq, child of Tech. Sgt. Sayed and Jonette Sadiq, gets a big hug from the Easter Bunny during Easter activities at Fort MacArthur. Above: Easter Egg hunters Danielle and Kerianne Vanderporten run into the Easter Bunny on their search for elusive Easter egg treasures. Danielle and Kerianne are the children of retired Lt. Col. Joe Vanderporten.

Dollars and Sense:

Finance related facts and information

Here are the Top 11 most common mistakes that have been made by our customers in filing travel vouchers. Watch to make sure you don't make the same mistakes when filing your travel voucher.

1. Hotel costs and taxes for the hotel must be claimed separately.

2. Lodging costs must be itemized. You cannot turn in a receipt with total amount paid — it must show daily lodging costs. If you do a lost receipt form, the same rule applies.

3. Rental car upgrades must be signed off by the orders approving official or resource advisor.

4. You must turn in both the front and back of orders.

5. Reimbursable expenses must be claimed on a voucher. Even though you attach a

receipt we cannot pay it if you do not claim it.

6. Privately owned conveyance operator/passenger must be marked.

7. Taxi cost versus parking at the airport reimbursement is limited to what it would cost for a taxi to and from your residence. For example, if it would cost \$100 to park at the airport, but only \$60 for a round trip in a taxi, you will be reimbursed only the \$60 taxi charges.

8. When traveling overseas the exchange rate must be listed on the voucher.

9. Long distance phone charges must be approved.

10. Automatic Teller Machine fee reimbursements can only be claimed for the government travel card, not your personal card and is

limited to out-of-pocket expenses.

11. You can only claim the mileage from Los Angeles AFB to your TDY location for local travel. You cannot be reimbursed for mileage from home to Los Angeles AFB.

Finally, when turning in vouchers you are only required to turn in one copy of your voucher, one copy of your orders and your original receipts plus one copy of receipts. It is recommended that you maintain a personal copy of everything.

Dollars and Sense is a forum to provide education to Los Angeles AFB on financial and travel matters.

If you want to submit topics to discuss in this section, send requests to:

mark.holbrook@losangeles.af.mil.



Earth Day events begin today in Area 'A' Mall

By John Ryan
Public Affairs

In celebration of Earth Day, Los Angeles AFB will have exhibits from the Marine Mammal Rescue Center and the Aerospace Bike Club in the Area 'A' Mall today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In addition, the Automobile Club of Southern California will cut free spare keys for autos. There will also be an electric vehicle on display, vanpool information, and bus transit information will be available.

The Environmental Engineering Department will exhibit various programs and will provide information on ridesharing, recycling, air and water quality, household hazardous waste and various promotional items. In honor of Arbor Day, the Environmental Engineering Department will distribute 300 tree saplings to personnel.

The base is planning several events to coincide with the 31st Anniversary of Earth Day, which was first celebrated in April 1970. Dan Dickerson, Base Rideshare Coordinator has promised, "something for everyone" with on- and off-base activities starting today and continuing tomorrow at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

Los Angeles AFB personnel will also participate in the Earth Day celebration at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Saturday located near Fort MacArthur at 3720 Stephen White Drive, San Pedro with a trash cleanup of the beach area from 8 to 10 a.m.

"This is a great opportunity for our families and our workforce to do our part for the environment, appreciate our accomplishments and examine the new innovative techniques available," said Col. Phil Parker, 61st ABG commander.

Fort MacArthur Clinic gets new doctor, hours

By Rosie Manning
61st Medical Squadron

We are sad to announce that 1st Lt. Kevin Eckersley, one of our very own Fort MacArthur health care providers, is leaving. We are proud of him because he has been accepted for an "Orthopedic Fellowship." He will be training to become an orthopedic physician assistant of which there are only about

30 in the Air Force. His fellowship will include training in emergency, office and surgical orthopedic practices.

Eckersley has served the 61st Medical Squadron proudly for over two and a half years. We congratulate him for his exceptional service and wish him well as he departs for school. He will be missed.

The good news is the same care and customer service will

remain available at Fort MacArthur. The clinic will remain open with new dates and operational hours beginning the week of May 14.

Beginning May 15, the clinic will be open from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays with Saturday hours from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Capt. Samuel Cloud will be the provider. He is a board certified family practitioner.

Computer crime investigators engage in war on cyber threats

By Matthew Johnson
Air Force OSI

ANDREWS AFB, Md. (AFPN) — The Air Force Office of Special Investigations fields a team of 48 specially trained agents to ward off hackers, thwart computer criminals, and detect cyber terrorists.

They are called computer crime investigators, or CCIs, and escalating threats from the cyber world keep them on their toes. Probes and scans of

Air Force computers from foreign locations alone number in the millions per year.

The need for vigilance against such threats is clearly

demonstrated by the damage caused to the Air Force by last year's "I Love You" computer virus which was responsible for over \$3 million in damages.

Imagine such a crippling attack — or several at one time — during wartime, and it is easy to understand why information assurance awareness is so critical to the Air Force.

It is also easy to understand why so many adversaries choose to operate in cyberspace:

Their attacks are harder to identify, they benefit from the rapidity of information flow, they can inflict great damage without great expenditure, and cyberspace provides a virtual

sanctuary from identification. And that is why CCIs have become increasingly important. CCIs provide rapid response to intrusions into Air Force information systems and networks worldwide. These officer, enlisted, and civilian agents are dispersed to seven primary locations around the world, supporting OSI field units and Air Force commanders in their respective areas of responsibility.

CCIs provide threat information, analysis, operations and intelligence support by engaging investigations and information assurance issues with military and civilian Computer Emergency Re-

sponse Teams, other military and federal law enforcement entities, and intelligence agencies.

Intrusions that originate from the United States are divided into two categories: traditional intrusions and intrusions from "insiders." Insiders are Air Force members, employees or contractors with access to Air Force information or systems who exceed their authorized access. Because of their regular access to information systems, insiders present the greatest potential for causing harm.

While CCIs are critical to the war on cyber threats, they cannot do it alone. They

depend on every Air Force member complying with sound computer practices. Do not open e-mail attachments from unreliable sources. Do not load unauthorized software onto your computer. Do not send information to anonymous e-mail requesters. Do not attempt to venture outside of your authorized level of access. Report these things if you become aware of them.

If you see a violation or exploitation of an Air Force resource or information system, immediately notify your assigned security officer or local OSI detachment. You may just foil the attempt of an adversary.

Astro News deadlines

The Los Angeles AFB paper, the *Astro News*, is published every other week on Friday. The editorial office is located within the Space and Missile Systems Center Public Affairs Office in Building 105, Room 4049, in Area A. The telephone number is 363-0303.

Deadline for article submissions is Friday at noon the week before the publication date. Articles should be sent via e-mail to the editor at:

SMC.PA.Astronews@losangeles.af.mil

Photos can be mailed to the following address:

SMC/PA – Astro News editor
2420 Vela Way, Suite 1467
El Segundo, Calif. 90245-4659

Publication date	Submission dates
May 4	April 27
May 18	May 11
June 1	May 25
June 15	June 8
June 29	June 22
July 13	July 6
July 27	July 20

Space-A destinations for April

April 2001 departures				
Date	Flight #	Space-A showtime	Departure Time	Destinations
29	MC71	6:35 p.m.	9:35 p.m.	Seattle, Osan, Kadena
23	MC87	8:50 p.m.	11:50 p.m.	Seattle, Yokota, Iwakuni, Misawa
26	MC79	8:30 p.m.	11:30 p.m.	Seattle, Yokota, Kadena
April 2001 arrivals				
Date	Flight #	Arrival time	Arriving from	
28	MC88	1:50 p.m.	Seattle, Yokota, Iwakuni, Misawa	
28	MC80	4 p.m.	Seattle, Yokota, Kadena	

Notes: Space available travel is available for Active Duty, Reserve and Retirees. For more information on eligibility, contact the Air Mobility Command Customer Service Branch at 363-0714. You can sign up for space available travel in person at Terminal 2 at the Los Angeles International Airport, by fax at 363-2790 or on the Internet at www.travis.af.mil.

Surveys help Air Force measure advertising success

By Senior Airm an Sara Banda
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force has been conducting public surveys to help measure the success of its advertising campaign to highlight the service and its mission to the American people.

Although the ads have been airing for seven months in movie theaters and on network and cable television, it is too early to determine to what extent they have helped recruiting or retention, said Dr. Steve Everett, head of Air Force public affairs research.

Though the ads have not yet “moved the needle” significantly, they have given Americans a new perspective of today’s Air Force, he said.

“Many Americans seem to take the U.S. Air Force for granted,” said Everett, who

designed the studies. “We do our job so well that we’ve become victims of our success. When a study participant in 1999 said ‘Kosovo was a milk run,’ I think that put it in perspective.

“In the past, we’ve also found evidence that Americans tend to think of the Air Force as planes,” he said. “Today, we want Americans to think, too, of the people who support the planes, who fly the planes and who send their spouses and/or parents off to work with the planes.”

According to initial survey findings, the American public and most Air Force people like the ad campaign. Air Force people especially like the one titled ‘People’ which highlights different airmen in various jobs. ‘Lullaby’ was also a favorite.

“Based upon my own



observations from two years’ worth of research, including surveys and focus groups held last summer,” said Everett, “I’d say the ads help create a more human picture of the Air Force among members of the public.”

However, not all the commercials were as strong among Air Force people as they were with the civilian public.

“Some Air Force people tended to think there was too much emphasis on flying at the expense of showing the diversity

of other Air Force people and their jobs,” Everett said, referring to the ‘Radar’ and ‘Bumper Sticker’ ads.

He said nearly everyone followed up that critique by saying those ads were fun to watch, exciting, engaging and probably on target for a young recruiting-age audience.

Some airmen felt the ads put a “rosy” glow on Air Force life and work, but acknowledged its need to support recruitment.

Although the majority of the American public thought the ads were speaking to everyone, some airmen would like to see more gender and ethnic diversity in the commercials, according to the feedback.

Other airmen believed advertising is pointless or were concerned with the cost of the ads while some of their active-

duty peers are on food stamps.

Everett said he understands the concerns and acknowledges that the ad campaign cannot solve the service’s recruiting and retention needs immediately, or alone.

“Regardless of the product or brand, ads by themselves rarely make people take certain action,” he said. “They work with many other factors in people’s lives that, in the end, bring them to a purchase decision.”

Therefore, he sees the ads playing an important role in the Air Force’s overall strategy to recruit and retain airmen.

“We plan two more surveys in June and another two in September and October to measure any changes in the audiences’ ad awareness and attitudes toward the Air Force,” he said.

Youth Center

“YOFAM” 2001 Year of the Family membership sign-up is ongoing. Sign up now for before- and after-school programs, summer camps and teen events.

Extended child care

The Child Development Center will implement a new child care initiative to extend the hours of child care to accommodate for extended duty hours. Extended duty is defined as temporary shift change, unplanned longer duty day, unplanned weekend duty, short-term temporary additional duty if no other parent available, dual military or single parent deployment. For more information, contact Iris Alexander at 363-5950.

Camping trip

Outdoor Recreation will take a trip to the Joshua Tree National Park April 28-29. Everyone is welcome for a night of camping and hiking on family-friendly trails. The cost of this trip is \$20 which includes transportation, campground fees and camping equipment. Not included are food and clothing. Call Outdoor Recreation at 363-2190 to sign up or for more details.

RV storage

Los Angeles AFB offers two recreational vehicle storage facilities located next to the FamCamp in Lawndale and at Fort MacArthur. Storage fees are \$30 per month for RVs more than 23 feet and \$20 per month for RVs less than 23 feet long.

Gymnastics offered

Gymnastics classes are being offered at the Fort MacArthur Fitness Center at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Teen Council meeting

Teen Council Meetings are held every Wednesday night from 6:30 until 8 p.m. at the Teen Center. The Teen Council discusses upcoming programs, activities and other ideas for Los Angeles AFB teens.

Cinco De Mayo

Celebrate Cinco De Mayo

with a buffet at The Club Atrium Room May 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The buffet is \$4.50 per person for Club members.

The Fitness Center

The Fitness Center offers one-on-one free individualized fitness programming. Personal trainers provide the following services: fitness assessments, personal fitness planning, fitness goal setting, programs to lower cholesterol, strength training, cardiovascular training, proper use of equipment and proper lifting techniques. Individual appointments can be made by calling 363-6815, or you can ask at the front desk for a trainer.

Worship schedule

Roman Catholic: Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays at 4 p.m., Mass at 4:30 p.m. Mass at 9 a.m. Sundays. Continuing Christian Development is held in Building 37 at 10:15 a.m.

Protestant: Sunday School at 9 a.m. in Building 37. General Protestant worship at 10:30 a.m. For more information, contact Chaplain (Maj.) Jim Walker at 363-6433.

Family Child Care

Los Angeles AFB is striving to expand Family Child Care Services in homes of military and retired military members. If you are a spouse who lives either on or off base and are interested in becoming a licensed family child care provider, contact Hyechong Froschl at 363-8334 or stop by the Child Development Center at Fort MacArthur, Building 31.

Current providers: **Amy Gonzalez** can provide child care from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, for children ages 3 and up on a full, part-time and drop-in basis. For more information, call 514-1938. **Johvon Tidwell** can provide child care from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays to Fridays for children ages 2 and up on a full, part time and drop-in basis. For more information, call 547-9762. **Ann Hall** has an opening for a child two years or older. Call 832-5673 for more information. **Kimberly McClure** has an

Smile for the camera



Photo by Joe Juarez

On a recent Outdoor Recreation-sponsored trip to Tijuana, Mexico, visitors pay a few pesos for the opportunity to have their picture taken riding a donkey. Call Outdoor Recreation at 363-2190 for information on upcoming trips and activities.

opening for a child two years or older. Call 833-8188 for more information. **Kellie Heironimus** provides hourly care for children of all ages. Call 833-5751 for more information. **Tina Alejandro** has an opening for a child two years or older. Call 832-2620 to speak to Tina. **Joan Smith** has two openings for children two years and

older. Call 241-1422 for more information.

The above providers are the only individuals authorized to provide child care in the Fort MacArthur, Pacific Heights and Pacific Crest areas.

In accordance with Air Force Instruction 34-276, persons wishing to provide child care for more than 10

hours per week on a regular basis in base housing must be trained, certified and granted a license by the base commander.

The Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station has openings in their Navy licensed family home day care homes.

For more information, call Kathy Richards at 562-626-7899.